

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 /070 W

----- 086228

R 231004Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2425

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PDEV US SF

SUBJECT: US ASSISTANCE FOR CISKEI HOMELAND

1. DURBAN PRESS DURING PAST THREE DAYS HAS FEATURED SEVERAL ARTICLES ON "USG-BACKED" ASSISTANCE BY VARIOUS US BUSINESS FIRMS TO CISKEI OR OTHER SA HOMELANDS. ARTICLE ARISE FROM INTERVIEW GIVEN BY CISKEI CHIEF MINISTER LENNOX SEBE TO BILL KRIGE, ARGUS GROUP'S DURBAN -BASED CORRESPONDENT ON TRANSKEI AND CISKEI HOMELANDS. KRIGE SAYS HE WAS GIVEN INFORMATION PERSONALLY BY SEBE IN INTERVIEW NOV 19.

2. EXAMPLES OF ARTICLES ARE:

A. DURBAN SUNDAY TRIBUNE, NOV 21, ARTICLE ENTITLED "CISKEI SETS THE BALL ROLLING BY ACCEPTING MASSIVE AMERICAN AID PLAN". TEXT STATES THAT USG "IS FULLY BEHIND A HUGE MULTI-MILLION RAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR THE HOMELANDS WHICH WILL BE SPONSORED BY SOME OF AMERICA'S LARGEST FIRMS AND UNIVERSITIES IN A BID TO UNDERMINE APARTHEID." ARTICLE QUOTES CHIEF MINISTER SEBE (JUST RETURNED FROM 3-WEEK VISIT TO US) SAYING THAT HE HAD MET IN US WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER,

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UNDERSECRETARY ROGERS, AND BUSINESS LEADERS AND UNIVERSITY

HEADS, AS A RESULT OF WHICH A PLAN WAS DEVELOPED "INITIALLY TO BE CONFINED TO THE CISKEI" FOR LARGE-SCALE AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS AS WELL AS CONSTRUCTION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND HOUSING. LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF "A PEACE CORPS" TO PROVIDE MEDICAL AND EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL ALSO REPORTEDLY WAS PART OF PLAN. SEBE MENTIONED US FIRMS OF MOBIL OIL, UNION CARBIDE, CATERPILLAR AND JOHN DEERE AS MAJOR SPONSORS BUT SAID BLACK AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ALSO WOULD BE INVOLVED. IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT, CISKEI PLANNED TO OPEN A NEW YORK OFFICE, AVAILABLE FOR USE BY ANY HOMELAND GOVERNMENT, PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT AND "ACT AS A WATCHDOG" ON US FIRMS ACTIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA."

B. DURBAN DAILY, NATAL MERCURY, REPORTED NOV 22 ON "R 19 MILLION U.S. AID FOR HOMELAND". ARTICLE STATED THIS AMOUNT WAS FOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS BY LARGE MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS (SAME FIRMS WERE CITED) "BACKED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT." PROJECTS DESCRIBED WERE R 6 MILLION IRRIGATION SCHEME AT KEISKAMMAHOEK, CISKEI, EMPLOYING 3,000 WORKERS; ANOTHER R 6 MILLION IRRIGATION PROJECT AT TYEFU NEAR PEDDIE, EMPLOYING 2,000; AND A R 10 MILLION PINEAPPLE GROWING PROJECT NEAR PEDDIE EMPLOYING 4,000.

C. PIETERMARITZBURG DAILY, NATAL WITNESS, REPORTED NOV 23 "HUGHE U.S.-CISKEI PROJECTS TO START ANYTIME NOW." CHIEF MINISTER SEBE REPORTEDLY SAID MAIN MAN BEHIND US FIRMS SPONSORSHIP IS A "DIRECTOR OF GENERAL MOTORS WITH EAR OF THE WHITE HOUSE." SEBE SAID HE WOULD DISCLOSE NAME OF THIS INDIVIDUAL ONLY AFTER "EVERYTHING HAD BEEN TIED UP."

3. DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY COMMENT WILL BE APPRECIATED.
FARBER

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